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on the Government and medical profession. The grubs can be killed in a few hours with kerosene oil; but operations must be continued systematically, and some of the more dangerous puddles must be drained. The physicians composing the commission have concluded that the true malarial fever is caused solely by the mosquito—probably entirely by the *Anopheles* species. Most of the fever can be got rid of at almost no cost, except of a little energy on the part of the local authorities.

The London Times, of September 28, 1899, comments on the above, in part, as follows:

Mosquitos, entomologically, are only gnats, or culicidæ, of which there are about one hundred and fifty known species, *Anopheles* being one genus out of several; and the particular *Anopheles* which has been proved guilty of fever carrying is a large variety, distinguished by having four spots on its wings. So far, at least, no conviction has been obtained against any other member of the gnat family, but it would be somewhat hazardous to extend to them the principles of English jurisprudence, and to regard them as innocent until they have been proved guilty. For the common English gnat, *Culex pipiens*, there is probably sufficient exculpatory evidence of a negative kind; but it is clear that, in malarious regions, all blood-sucking insects must be at least suspected. Nevertheless, it must be borne in mind that the inquiry, so far, has reached only an early stage, and that not only may there be tropical fevers which are not due to the ague parasite, but there may be also harmless gnats in infected districts. The most encouraging part of Dr. Ross's letter is that in which he expresses his belief that the destruction of the peccant insects, in the puddles in which they spend their larval stage, can be effected without excessive difficulty, and, in a large measure, by an agent so little dangerous as kerosene. If this expectation should be realized, the effect will be to open up immense regions of African and other countries to European colonization and to take away one of the great scourges of the world. It seems highly probable that the destructive effect of the tsetse fly on horses may be due to some similar parasite conveyed by bites, and that the infinitely little, as in so many other recent instances, will be found to play a most important part in relation to the history and destinies of mankind.

NORWAY.

Santos, Brazil, and the ports of Paraguay declared infected with plague.

CHRISTIANIA, October 30, 1899.

SIR: Inclosed I have the honor to send notification issued by the Norwegian Government and declaring the city of Santos in Brazil and the ports of Paraguay infected with the plague.

Respectfully,

HENRY BORDEWICH,
United States Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

SALVADOR.

No yellow fever in San Salvador.

SAN SALVADOR, October 19, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to report that there is no case of yellow fever in San Salvador, and that sanitary precautions have gone into effect lately.

Respectfully,

JOHN JENKINS,
United States Consul.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.